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**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

*This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:*

1. (Previously presented) A vacuum cleaner comprising:

a nozzle unit having a nozzle,

an electric blower for sucking air,

a suction air passage provided between the nozzle unit and the electric blower, and

a cyclone dust collector, arranged in the suction air passage, for separating dust by making sucked air into a whirling stream, wherein the cyclone dust collector comprises:

a dust collection chamber for collecting dust, the dust collection chamber having an inlet port through which to introduce the sucked air,

a lid for selectively opening and closing the dust collection chamber, the lid comprising an exhaust port through which to discharge sucked air out of the dust collection chamber, and

an exhaust cylinder detachably fitted to the exhaust port of the lid,

a shielding member detachably fitted to a bottom end of the exhaust cylinder, wherein the shielding member closes off the bottom end of the exhaust cylinder so that air entering the exhaust cylinder enters the exhaust cylinder through a port located in a peripheral edge of the exhaust cylinder, and

wherein the shielding member is located above an area of the dust collecting chamber where dust is collected, and wherein the shielding member includes a plurality of elongated ribs extending downwardly from a top portion thereof for separating dust from the air in the dust collection chamber.